

# College-Level Spanish Language

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## Description of the Examination

The College-Level Spanish Language exam is designed to measure knowledge and ability equivalent to that of students who have completed two to four semesters of college Spanish language study. The exam focuses on skills typically achieved from the end of the first year through the second year of college study; material taught during both years is incorporated into a single exam.

The exam is 90 minutes long and is administered in two separately timed sections:

- a 30-minute Listening Section of approximately 50 questions, presented on a tape;
- a 60-minute Reading Section of approximately 80 questions, presented in a test book.

The two sections are weighted so that they contribute equally to the total score. Subscores are reported for the two sections; however, they are computed independently. An individual's total score, therefore, is not necessarily the average of the two subscores.

Most colleges that award credit for the College-Level Spanish Language exam award either two or four semesters of credit, depending on the student's scores on the test. The subscores are not intended to be used to award credit separately for the Listening and Reading, but colleges may require that both scores be above a certain level to ensure that credit is not awarded to a student who is deficient in either of these skills.

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## Knowledge and Skills Required

Candidates must demonstrate their ability to comprehend written and spoken Spanish by answering various types of questions. The following components of reading and listening skills are tested in the exam.

### Approximate Percent of Examination

<b>40%</b>	<b>Section I: Listening</b>
15%	Part A Rejoinders (oral exchanges)
25%	Part B Short and long dialogues, and narratives
<b>60%</b>	<b>Section II: Reading</b>
10%	Part A Vocabulary and structure
20%	Part B Short, contextualized cloze passages
30%	Part C Reading comprehension (passages and authentic stimulus materials)

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## Study Resources

Familiarize yourself thoroughly with the contents of at least one Spanish textbook used in courses during the first two years of college Spanish, which you can find in most college bookstores. In addition to studying basic vocabulary, you should understand and be able

to apply the grammatical principles that make up the language. To improve your reading comprehension, read passages from textbooks, short magazine or newspaper articles, or other printed material of your choice. To improve your listening comprehension, seek opportunities to hear the language spoken by native speakers and to converse with native speakers.

If you have opportunities to join organizations with Spanish-speaking members, to attend Spanish movies, or to listen to Spanish-language television or radio broadcasts, take advantage of them. The Internet is another resource you should explore.